

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 22 with the following new paragraph:

In view of the foregoing, it is ~~an object~~ a feature of the present invention to provide a personal authentication function to a mobile terminal to prevent the unauthorized use of the mobile terminal by an unauthorized person when the mobile terminal is stolen or lost and possessed by the unauthorized person.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 1 with the following new paragraph:

~~The~~ An embodiment of the present invention provides a mobile terminal having a personal authentication function and a communication function for bi-directionally communicating with a communication base station, the mobile terminal comprising: a personal authentication information storing section for storing personal authentication information; an identity information inputting section for inputting identity information of a current user of the mobile terminal for identification of an authentic user of the mobile terminal; a personal authentication section which checks authenticity of the identity information inputted from the identity information inputting section on the basis of the personal authentication information stored in the personal authentication information storing section for personal authentication; and an

informing section which transmits an authentication result to the communication base station if the personal authentication is failed as the result of the check of the authenticity of the identity information by the personal authentication section.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 18 with the following new paragraph:

According to an embodiment of the present invention, when the identity information for the personal authentication is inputted from the identity information inputting section, the authenticity of the inputted identity information is checked for the personal authentication on the basis of the preliminarily stored personal authentication information. If the personal authentication is failed as the result of the authenticity check, the authentication result is transmitted to the communication base station. The communication base station can take various actions, for example, for restricting the use of the mobile terminal or for communicating with the owner of the mobile terminal via a wire telephone. Thus, the unauthorized use of the mobile terminal by an unauthorized person can assuredly be prevented, even if the owner of the mobile terminal is not aware of the steal or loss of the mobile terminal.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 5 with the following new paragraph:

In an embodiment of the present invention, the personal authentication information storing section is capable of storing information for the personal authentication, and may comprise any of various storage media such as semiconductor memories, magnetic recording media and optical recording media known in the art. The personal authentication information storing section is desirably incorporated in the small size mobile terminal. To this end, it is desirable to employ a card memory or the like which is typically used as a recording medium for a digital camera.